PLANTATION RUBBER INVESTIGATIONS

Memorandum of agreement signed at México July 14, 1942, supplementing memorandum of agreement of April 11, 1941 Entered into force July 14, 1942

57 Stat. 1288; Executive Agreement Series 364

Supplementary Memorandum to the Agreement Between the Secretaria de Agricultura y Fomento of the United Mexican States and the Department of Agriculture of the United States of America

- 1. Under the terms of the existing Memorandum of Agreement between the Secretaría de Agricultura y Fomento, Mexico, and the Department of Agriculture, United States of America, dated April 11, 1941, more than a million locally produced and imported seeds of Hevea brasiliensis and several thousand imported trees budded to high-yielding clones of Hevea have been planted in nurseries of the central rubber experiment station, El Palmar, Veracruz, established in 1941 for rubber plant research and practical development of a Hevea rubber plantation industry in Mexico. It is estimated that during the next twelve months about a quarter of a million trees budded to the improved clones of Hevea will be available at El Palmar. The project has been notably successful to the present date and with a rapidly expanding volume of valuable plant material it is necessary to make definite plans for the best use of the plant material and of the experience that has been gained, in order to further insure achievement of a self-sustaining commercial rubber industry.
- 2. The time has now arrived for taking the second essential step toward development of the industry, namely the establishing of government demonstration plantations to serve as proving grounds for the trees and plantation procedure and as augmented sources of improved budded trees for small farms and other commercial operations.
- 3. Accordingly, as soon as practicable the Mexican government will acquire five tracts of suitable land on which the best growth of *Hevea* may be expected, each tract containing not less than 300 hectares, for the purpose of developing demonstration plantations. The lands will be selected by a

¹ EAS 364, ante, p. 1052.

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joint committee representing the Dirección General de Agricultura, Secretaría de Agricultura of Mexico and the Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture. In order to prepare in advance for the reception and planting of the budded nursery trees mentioned in paragraph 1, the Mexican Government will proceed to develop the five tracts of land at the appropriate time, dictated by the stage of growth of the nursery trees, and will bear the cost of such development.

- 4. The United States Department of Agriculture will provide the additional technical and supervisory assistance necessary in proportion to the augmented scope of work now proposed, and will continue to supply budwood, budded stumps and other plant materials as improved strains of *Hevea* and other plants are developed by breeding and selection at the several cooperative stations in tropical America.
- 5. The development of this program is contingent upon appropriation of money for the purpose by the Congresses of the United Mexican States and the United States of America for the fulfillment of the respective obligations of the signatories.

Marte R. Gomez
Secretario de Agricultura y Fomento
de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos
Julio 14, 1942

CLAUDE R. WICKARD
Secretary of Agriculture of the
United States of America
July 14, 1942